

This July

STARTING OVER

*How to ensure next time
won't be like last time*





LIFEGROUPS

Series: Starting Over

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2

Date: July 16 & 17, 2016

Adapted with permission from the North Point Ministries LifeGroups Guide

—[LET'S START]—

- What's one thing from your past, big or small, you wish you could "do over." If you could go back in time, what would you do differently?

—[LET'S DIG]—

1. Talk about a time when you saw someone make a mistake even though everyone around him or her warned that it was a mistake. Why do you think that person was unable to recognize that he or she was making a mistake even though it was obvious to everyone else?
2. When have you believed that if you only had something or someone, you'd be satisfied with your life? If you finally obtained that something or someone, what was the result?
3. One of the five dangerous assumptions talked about during the message was, "Nobody knows." Do you agree that it's dangerous to live with secrets? Why or why not?
4. Talk about a time when you made a mistake because you believed your situation was unique. How did you discover you weren't alone, that other people had experienced similar situations? How did that change your perspective and your situation?
5. Read Romans 12:1-2. What is one area of your life where you're trying to put on the new without first taking off the old? What is one thing you can do this week to begin to renew your mind in this area? What can this group do to support you?

—[LET'S ACT]—

- **Enter the Re-Purpose for a Reason Auction!** --- Find it, Make it, Release it!
- Do you have a treasure stashed away in a closet or basement? When you see abandoned furniture, do you think, "Opportunity?" This month we invite you to re-purpose something that has been forgotten or broken, and give it to Wooddale to put in a **Silent Auction the weekend of July 30/31**. Your whole LifeGroup could work together on a project! The proceeds will go to our Compassion Ministry, helping people in need through local ministries such as The Sheridan Story. Take pictures and post them on social media with **#Repurpose**
- Be sure to check out the Wooddale Week for all the details!

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—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- We learn from our mistakes in the areas that matter least. We repeat our mistakes in the areas that matter most. Too often, we look at our pasts and our decisions don't even make sense to us. We end up asking, "What was I thinking?"
- You need to answer that question, "What was I thinking?" Don't be a conformer. Be a transformer. Next time can be better than last time if you renew your mind daily with Christ's transforming power.
- If you want to break the cycle of repeated mistakes, regret and resolve aren't enough. You can't will yourself into a different future. If you think the way you used to think, you'll do the things you used to do.
- If you want to break the cycle of repeated mistakes, rethink it.
- Here are five dangerous assumptions people make which allow ourselves to be comforted to the culture's way of thinking:
 1. The right person will make everything all right.
 - All of us are flawed people and there is a myth that you *must* find the right person. Instead we need to focus on becoming the right person ourselves!
 2. My situation is unique.
 - This is what we say to avoid good advice. You are not the exception to the rule. You are unique, but your situation isn't.
 3. It makes me happy so it must be right.
 - What makes you happy today may not make you happy tomorrow. We need to focus on what is best for us because in the end what is best for us will ultimately make us the most happy.
 4. I am my performance.
 - It isn't about what we do, it is about what Christ has done in us. When we rest in that, we can make wise decisions.
 5. Nobody knows.
 - Secrets seep out. And when they do, they sink reputations and relationships.

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